

Appl. No. 09/980,706  
Response dated August 29, 2003  
Reply to Office action of August 4, 2003


**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicant provisionally elects Group I, the claims readable thereon as being claims 1-9 and 19-20, which are drawn to a method of isolated nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO: 1 or a diagnostic fragment thereof. This is without prejudice to Applicant filing a divisional application to the Group II invention.

In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, we respectfully submit that the application is in order for allowance and early indication of that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner deem it beneficial to discuss the application in greater detail, she is kindly requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at (416) 957-1682 at her convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

BERESKIN & PARR

By   
Patricia Power  
Reg. No. 51,379

**FAX RECEIVED**  
**AUG 29 2003**  
**GROUP 1600**

Bereskin & Parr  
Box 401, 40 King Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M5H 3Y2  
Tel: 416-364-7311  
Fax: 416-361-1398

**OFFICIAL**